

Improved Order of Red Men, Ononga Tribe No. 50 collection S1557

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July 17, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
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Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Improved Order of Red Men. Ononga Tribe No. 50 (Anderson, Ind.).
Title	Improved Order of Red Men, Ononga Tribe No. 50 collection
Date	1897-1904
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1557

Preferred Citation

Improved Order of Red Men, Ononga Tribe No. 50 collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Administrative History

The Improved Order of Red Men is a patriotic fraternal organization in the United States, which claims to trace its origins as far back as 1765 to secret patriotic societies, such as the Sons of Liberty, the Sons of St. Tammany, and later the Society of Red Men. An offshoot of the last organization, the Improved Order of Red Men formed in 1834 in Baltimore, Maryland. The society appropriated Native American culture (or some semblance thereof) for its language and traditions, calling its local units "Tribes," which are each led by a "Sachem" and held in a meeting house called a "Wigwam." The organization still exists as of today, but membership has severely declined over the last century.

The Ononga Tribe No. 50 was based in Anderson, Indiana in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Sources:

Items in the collection.

The Improved Order of Red Men. "Who Are the Red Men?" Accessed July 17, 2015. <http://redmen.org/redmen/info/>.

Lindsey, George W., Charles C. Conley, and Charles H. Litchman. *Official History of the Improved Order of Red Men*. (Boston : Fraternity Pub. Co., [1893]), 147, 153, 247. Accessed July 17, 2015. <https://books.google.com>.

Scope and Contents

This collectio includes a letter and book of bylaws regarding the Improved Order of Red Men, Ononga Tribe No. 50. The letter and accompanying envelope from Charles R. McLeland in Madison, Indiana to R. D. Scott, in Anderson, Indiana on February 5, 1897 concerns "brothers" expelled from the organization. The booklet of bylaws of Ononga Tribe No. 50 was published in 1904.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Willard C. Heiss in 1947/10.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2015/04/02 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield. EAD finding aid created 2015/04/02 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield. EAD finding aid revised 2015/07/17 by Brittany Kropf.

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Anderson (Ind.)

Subject(s)

- By-laws
- Correspondence
- Societies and clubs